

ECEAP Fast Facts

The Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) is Washington's pre-kindergarten program preparing low-income 3- and 4-year-olds for success in school and in life. Since 1985, ECEAP has focused on the well-being of the whole child by providing in-depth health, education and family support services. ECEAP reaches the children most in need of these foundations for learning.

Enrollment 2011-12: 8,391 **Since 1986:** 168,000

Eligibility

- ◆ Age 3 or 4
- ◆ Income less than 110 percent federal poverty level (\$24,585 for family of 4)
- ◆ Special education
- ◆ Developmental or environmental risk factors

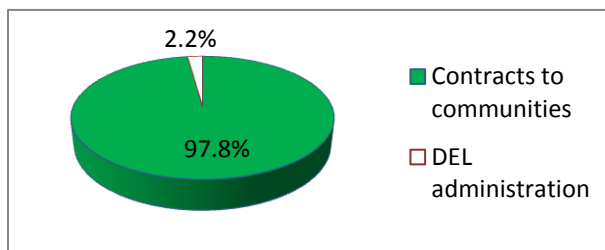
Last year, 18,600 children were eligible for ECEAP, but not served by either ECEAP or the federal Head Start program.

About ECEAP families (2010-11)

- ◆ 3% of ECEAP children were in foster care
- ◆ 7% were homeless
- ◆ 9% qualified for special education
- ◆ 11% of ECEAP children have parents with less than a seventh-grade education.
- ◆ 37% have parents with less than high school education.
- ◆ 64% of ECEAP families are at or below annual incomes of \$17,880 for a family of four.
- ◆ 72% have income from wages, but qualify because their wages are low.
- ◆ 83% of ECEAP children were 4-year-olds, in their final year before kindergarten.

Funding

- ◆ \$57,156,000 for 2011-12 school year
- ◆ Minimum \$6,630 per slot to contractors

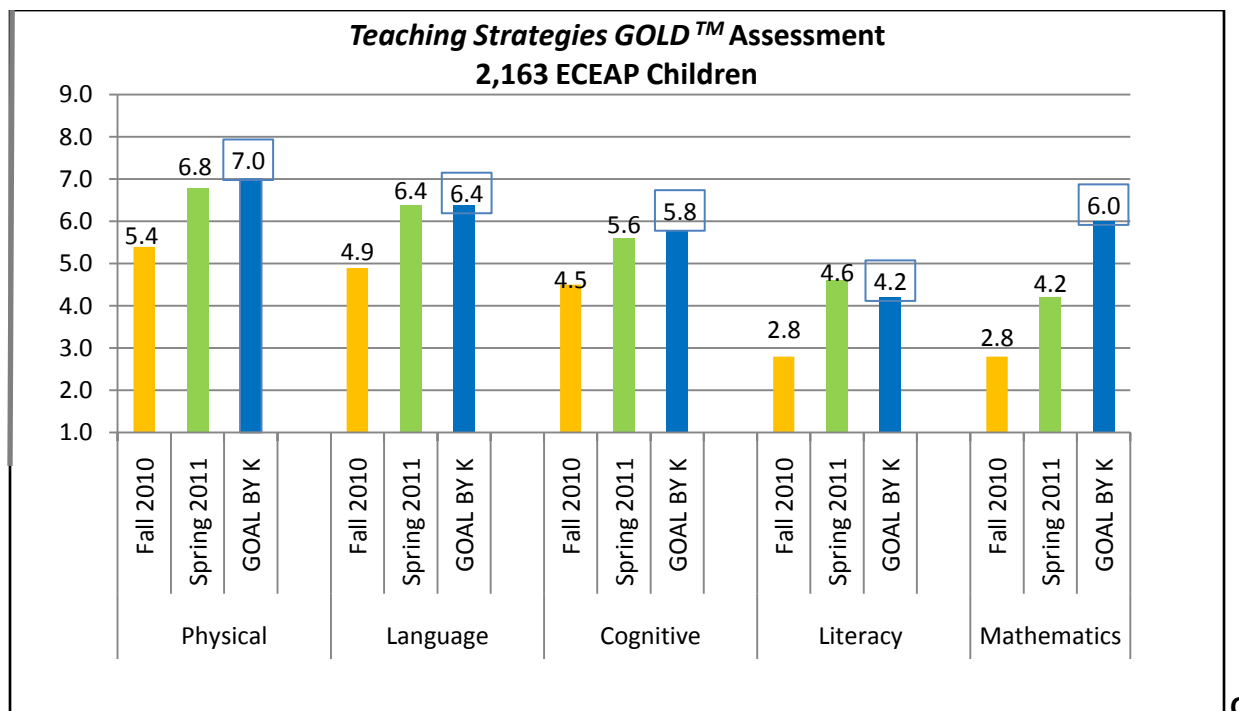


Return on Investment

National research shows that high-quality prekindergarten programs like ECEAP save taxpayer money, by reducing later costs for remedial education, teen pregnancy, criminal justice and public assistance. Children who participate are more likely to graduate high school and have higher lifetime earnings than similar children. In the 2010 National Institute for Early Education Research ranking of state preschools, ECEAP received 9 out of 10 quality points.

Learning Outcomes for 2010-2011 School Year

ECEAP children made progress and approached the general expected level for kindergarten entry .



Health outcomes for 2010-2011 School Year

- ◆ 10% of ECEAP children had no medical coverage when they enrolled, an increase from 3% the prior year.
- ◆ 61% of ECEAP children were up-to-date on well-child medical exams when they enrolled, but 96% were up-to-date by the end of the year. 5% received medical treatment as a result of these exams.
- ◆ Only 45% of children were up-to-date with dental screenings when they arrived. By the end of the year, 92% had been screened and 21% received dental treatment.

Family Outcomes

A 2009-10 survey showed that ECEAP families increased their knowledge of community resources, read to their children more often, and increased skills for supporting their children's education. 85 percent set a family goal (such as better employment) and made a plan to reach it; 35 percent reached a major goal.